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the Reports of the State Entomologist of Illinois, for the years 1870 to 1873, and a number of copies of those for 1887 to 1892, inclusive.

### THE PUBLIC LIBRARIAN

(Editorial in the Columbus (O.) Dispatch.)

In the convention of the Ohio Library Association, now in session at the Public library building, we are getting another glimpse of the public librarian, and are finding him a public servant of the highest order—devoted to his work, painstaking in every detail, ever striving for a more perfect service. He is as much interested in meeting every reasonable request as is the grocer or the dry goods merchant who has something to sell from the profit of which he must live. He welcomes a patron as a merchant does a customer, and he takes pride in finding the information or the book that is wanted. By his success in meeting every request, he measures his efficiency. But he does not stop there. As he makes the library useful to the people of the community, often to persons who are not in the habit of using the library because they do not know of the help that is there to be had, he considers his existence justified.

That is high praise, but it is justified not only in what these men and women say about their work, but in the way they actually do it, as any observer can determine for himself. It could be wished that every public office were put upon as high a standard of service as is the library, that all officials were as devoted and painstaking and as rigorous in their judgment of their work. Some are, but there are too many who are not—too many who feel that an office is a salary, with a few duties insecurely attached and negligible if the performance is inconvenient.

The spirit of library service, as it is unconsciously exposed in the discussions of the session, is worth while. It is the spirit, not of getting but giving, not of doing everybody, but of doing for everybody. There ought to be more of it in our public life.

### SHAKESPEARE TERCENTENARY

The A. L. A. wishes to do what it can to aid libraries in their observance of the tercentenary of Shakespeare's death. The Drama League of America (headquarters 736 Marquette building, Chicago) is taking an active interest. Occasional bulletins are issued and will be sent to libraries on request. Bulletin No. 2 is devoted to tercentenary plans.

The A. L. A. Publishing Board is about to issue a "Brief guide to the literature of Shakespeare," prepared by H. H. B. Meyer, of the Library of Congress. Further notice of this bibliography will be found elsewhere in this Bulletin.

Librarians are requested to advise the secretary of the A. L. A. of any steps being taken by their respective libraries for the Shakespeare celebration which would be of interest or value to other libraries. These items of information will be reported in the next issue of the Bulletin of the A. L. A.

Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, issues a set of twelve post cards illustrative of scenes from plays, famous actresses, Shakespeare portrait, etc. Price 50 cents. For sale in this country by Shakespeare Tercentenary Bureau, Drama League of America, 736 Marquette building, Chicago.

The Art Institute of Chicago also issues a set of ten post cards illustrating separate plays, done in colors after designs by students of the Institute. Price 50 cents. For sale by Art Institute, Chicago.

The Associated Shakespeare Clubs of Toledo, Ohio, recommend the planting of a Memorial Tree in each town and have issued a leaflet with information for campaign, suggestive program, etc. This club has also prepared and issued an appropriate book-plate embodying the following features: (1) The colors,—black and gold; (2) the motto; (3) comedy and tragedy; (4) significant dates; (5) the portrait; (6) the autograph; (7) view of the Avon; (8) coat of arms. The book-plate will be sold at \$6 per thousand, the pro-

ceeds used to defray expenses in their tree-planting campaign. The book-plate is an interesting souvenir to give to school children or to be used in a Shakespeare library. For Bulletin or book-plate write to Mrs. Robert Carlton Morris, 2648 Kirkwood Lane, Toledo, Ohio.

**A. L. A. COMMITTEE ON BOOKBINDING**  
**Universal Edition of Charles Dickens in**  
**Reinforced Binding**

Acting on a suggestion of the A. L. A. Committee on Bookbinding, Charles Scribner's Sons have put in a reinforced binding a number of sets of their Universal Edition of Charles Dickens. The number of volumes in a set is 22, purchasable at \$22.00 net a set, or separately at \$1.00 a volume. The reinforced binding costs 10c extra per volume. The advantages of the edition are good type and paper, excellent illustrations, one novel to a volume, and small cost. The reinforcement is well done and meets with the approval of the Bookbinding Committee.

A. L. BAILEY, Chairman.

**STECHERT EXHIBIT AT THE FAIR**

F. C. Stechert & Co., Booksellers, 29-35 West 32nd St., New York, call attention to the omission of mention of their San Francisco exhibit in the handbook prepared for the Berkeley Conference by the local committee on things of particular interest to librarians at the Fair.

The exhibit of this company was in the German section of the Palace of Liberal Arts, and the underlying scheme was to show the books which are most likely to be found in German homes. They were arranged in groups to cover the various fields of literature, art, music and fiction. The exhibit was particularly attractive on account of the German weeklies and accounts of the war. A fuller notice appeared in "The Bookseller," May 1, 1915.

Doubtless many librarians who attended the conference found their way to the Stechert exhibit notwithstanding this accidental omission from the handbook of the local committee.

**REGISTRATION OF PROPOSED**  
**BIBLIOGRAPHIES**

One of the things which the A. L. A. tries to emphasize is the necessity of eliminating all duplication of work. This goal is far from reached. The duplication of bibliographies on practically the same subjects shows this. It not infrequently happens that two good reading lists on the very same topic appear at about the same time. The compilers worked independently of each other, but the achieved result was about the same. Obviously fifty per cent of the energy could have been better devoted to some subject needed but not being covered by anyone.

Now if everybody about to compile a bibliography, large or small, would record the principal facts on a standard size catalog card and send this card to the A. L. A. Executive Office, Chicago, the secretary would make a file of all such. Then, before one undertakes to make a bibliography or reading list, he could ascertain by writing to the A. L. A. office whether he had a clear field or whether he could save his time by utilizing the work that somebody else was doing. Perhaps two persons contemplating making a list on the same subject could thus be put in touch with each other and extend valuable aid each to each, instead of needlessly duplicating the other's work. The secretary would regard any information as confidential, if so requested, and would only use it between the persons concerned.

This is part and parcel of the library sponsorship idea advocated by Mr. George Winthrop Lee in recent issues of the "Library Journal" and was itself suggested to the secretary by him.

**LIBRARY TRAINING IN THE NORMAL**  
**SCHOOLS**

"A few persons learn at home the use of a library; a small number acquire the art from some library or under the suggestion or guidance of some librarian; a few pick up the art unaided; but all these constitute a small minority. The public schools get practically everybody; and it is to the pub-